



King Midas

and the Gold



Retold by Alex Frith
Illustrated by Simona Sanfilippo



King Midas

and the Gold

King Midas loves gold – but his greed soon gets him into trouble. This lively retelling of a classic Greek myth has easy-to-read text and fun puzzles to try after the story.



King Midas and the Gold is in the **Usborne First Reading** series, written especially for children who are learning to read, and developed in consultation with Alison Kelly, Principle Lecturer in Education and reading specialist at Roehampton University. With delightful illustrations, these books combine great stories with fun puzzles to excite and inspire any beginner.

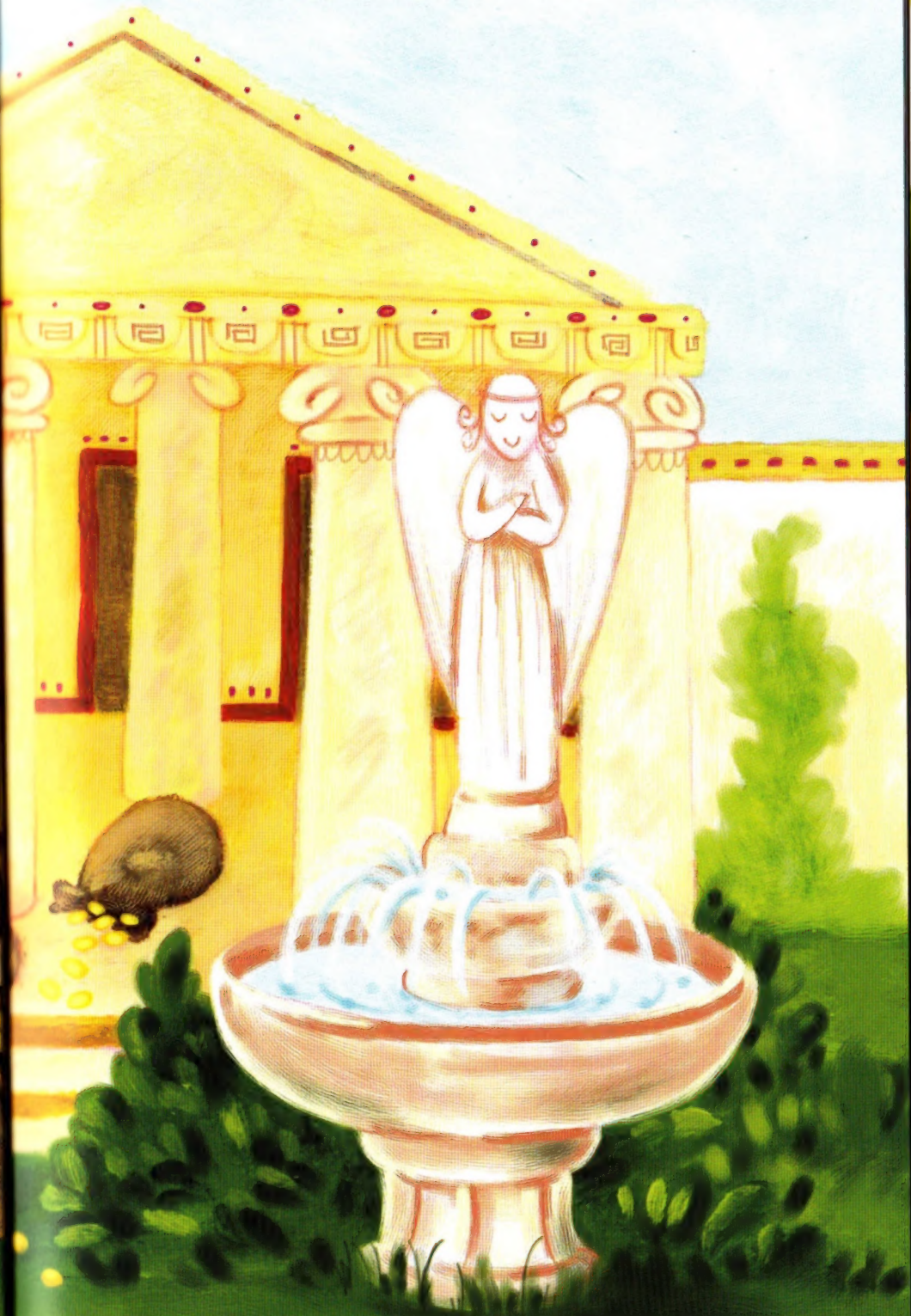
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King Midas was
very rich.



He was kind, too.



One day, he met an old man.



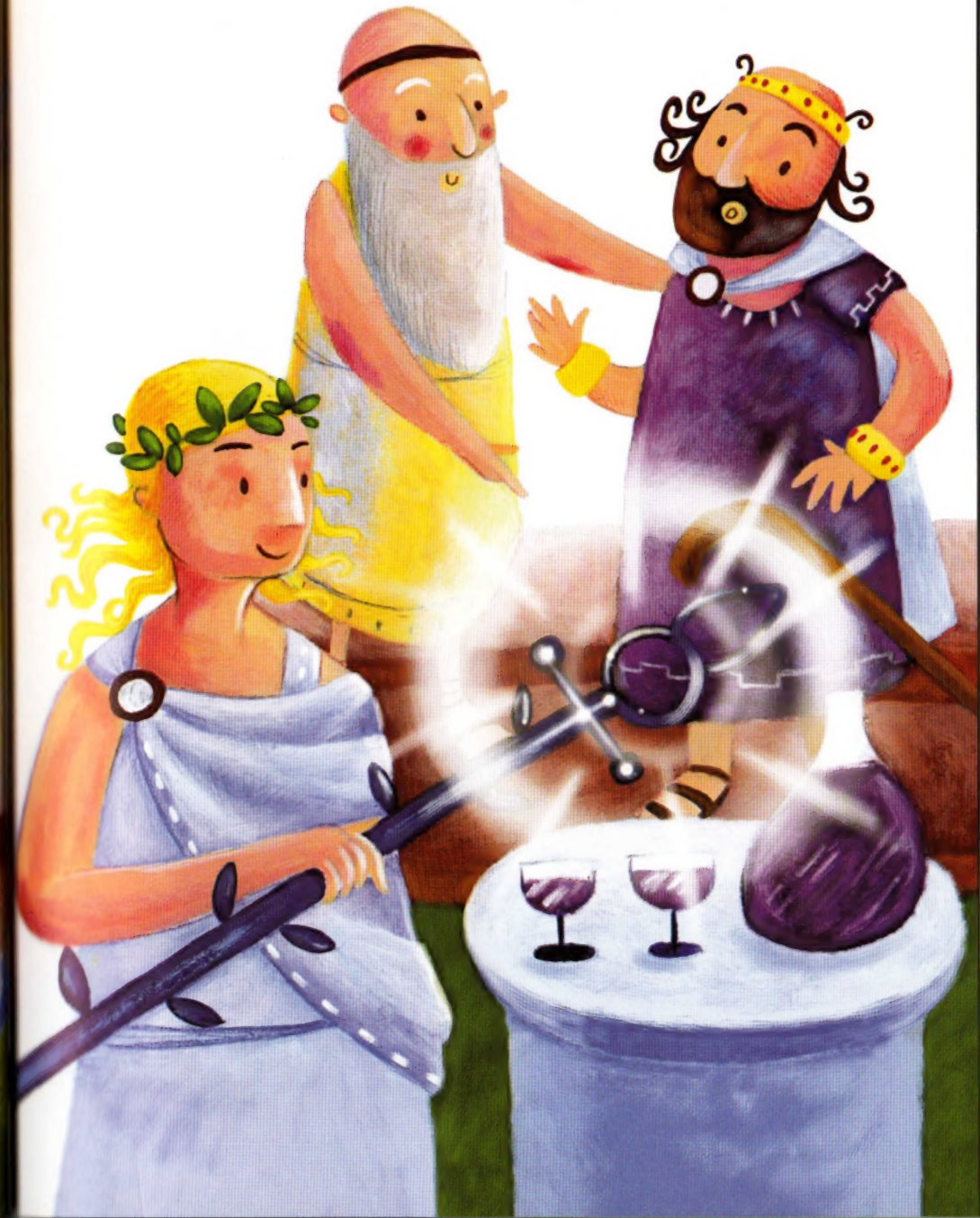
Midas helped the man
to find his house.

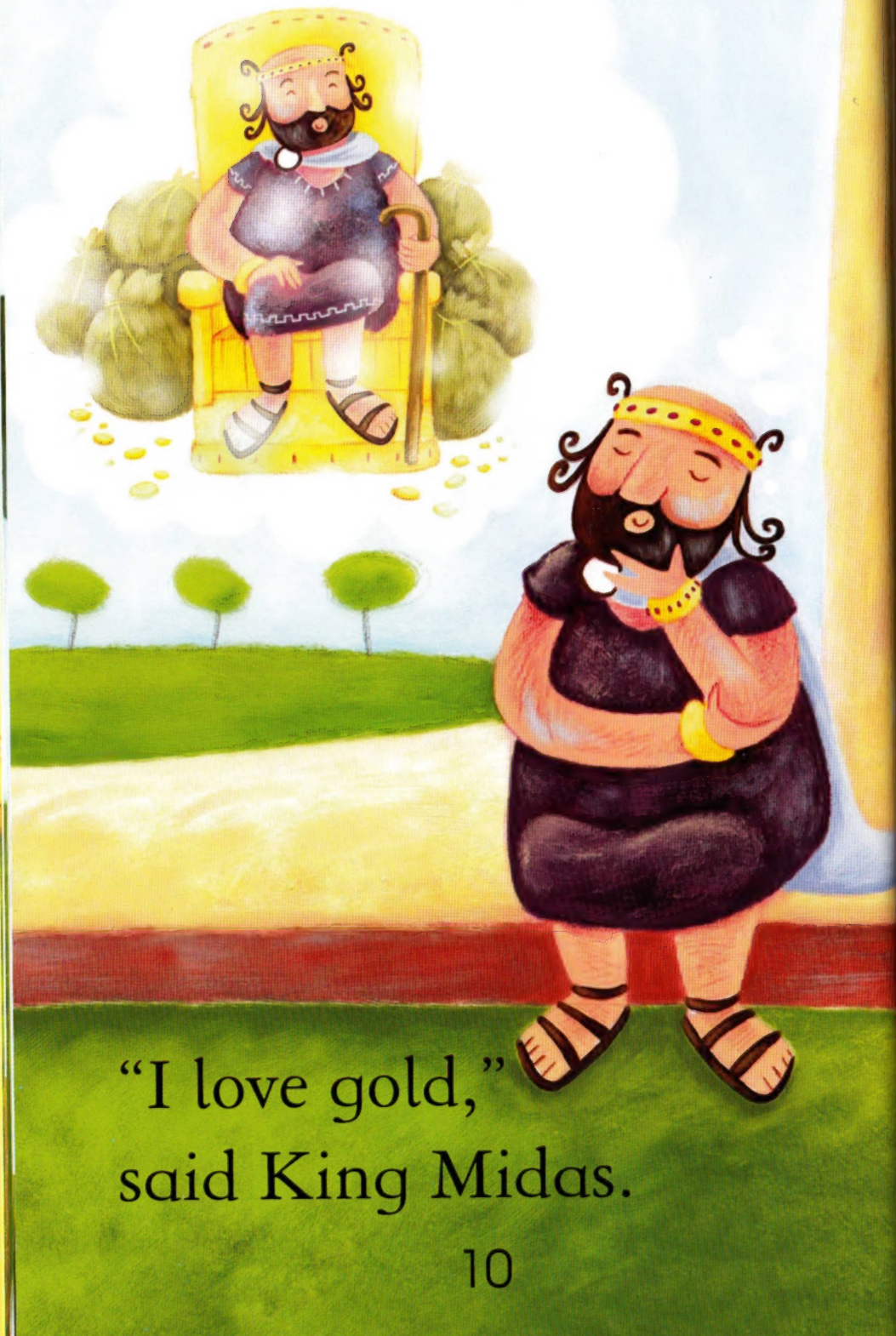


“My son is a god,”
said the old man.



“He can give you
a wish.”



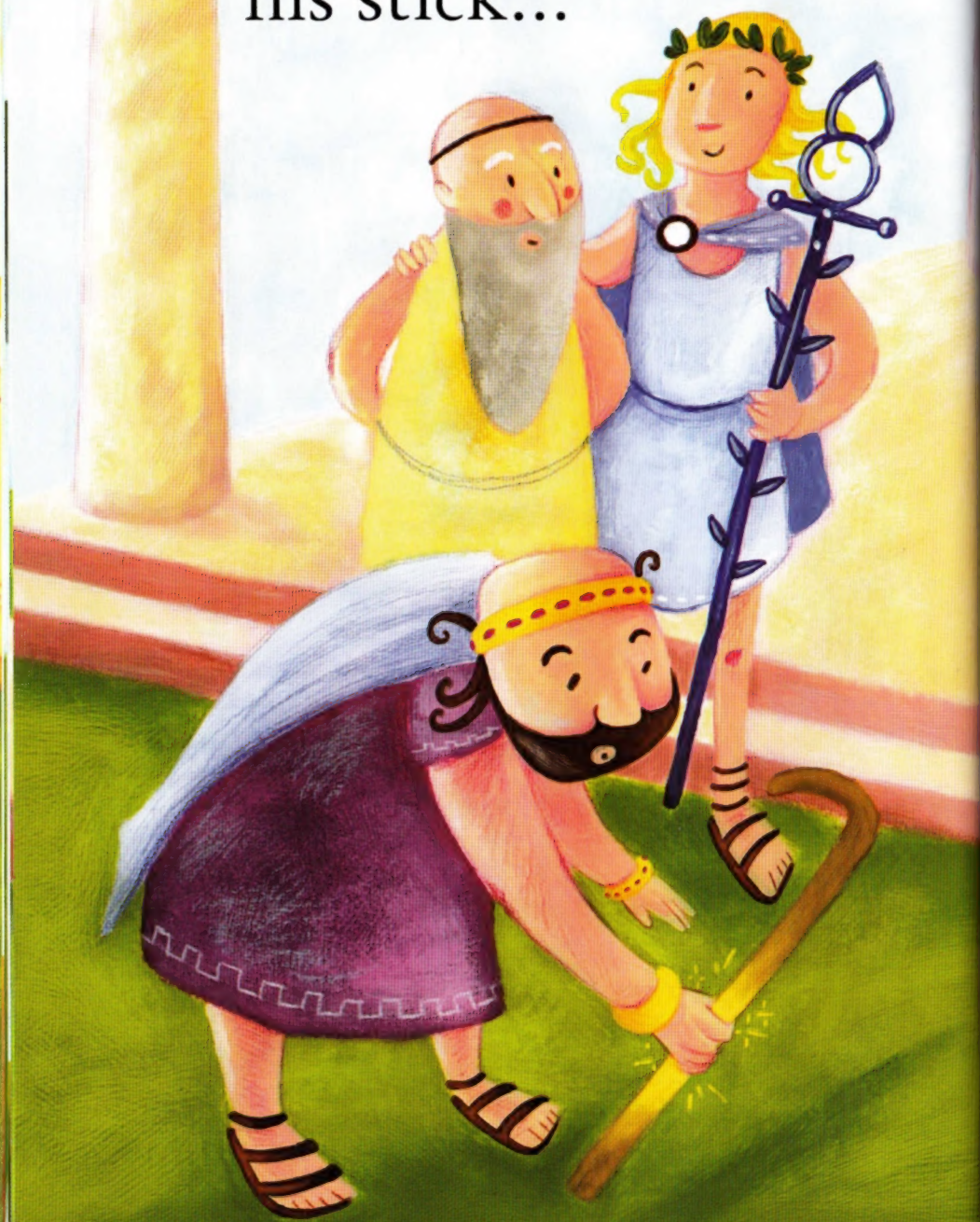


“I love gold,”
said King Midas.

“I wish I could touch
things and turn them
to gold.”



King Midas touched
his stick...



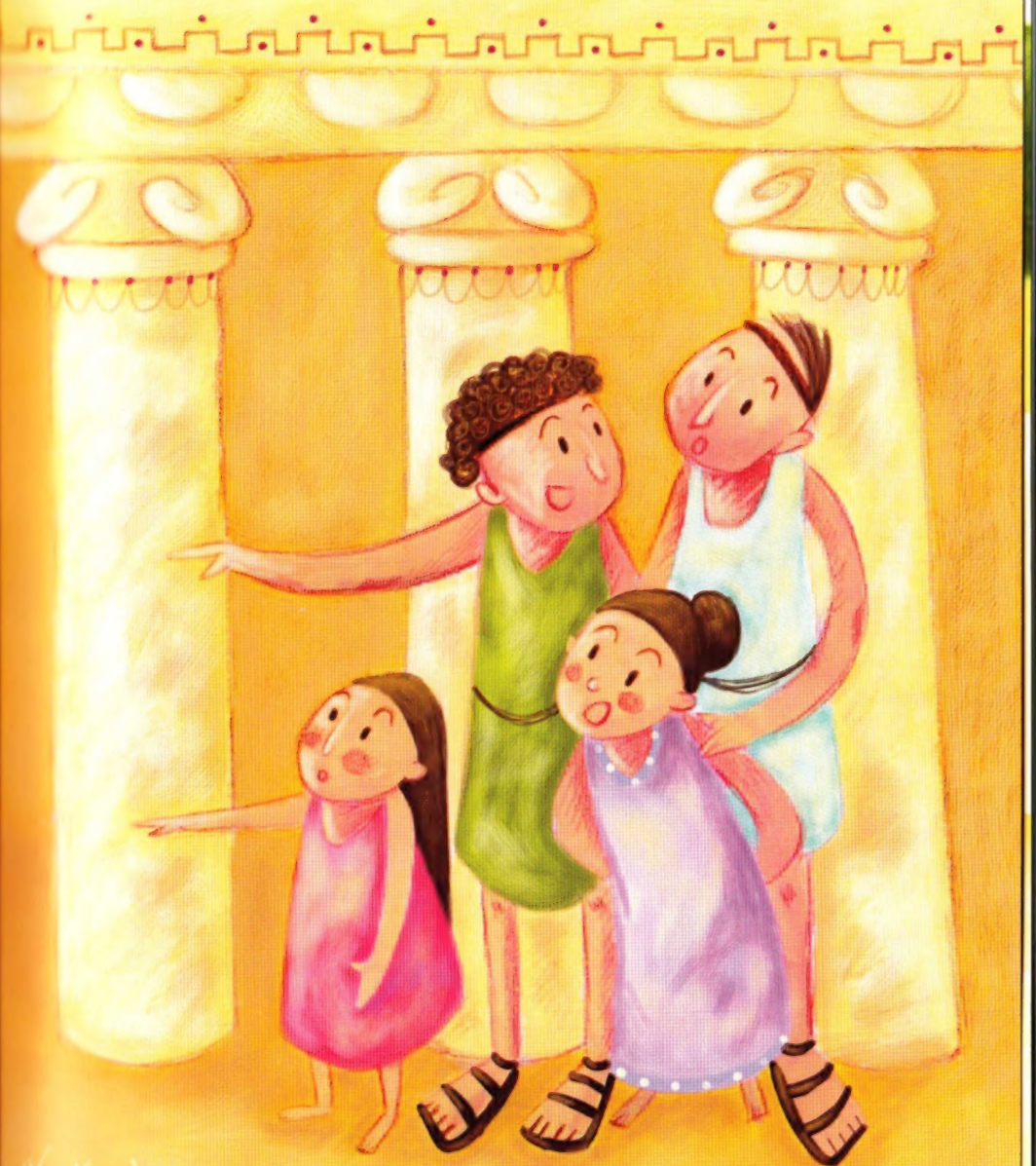
...and it turned to gold.



He touched his
palace...



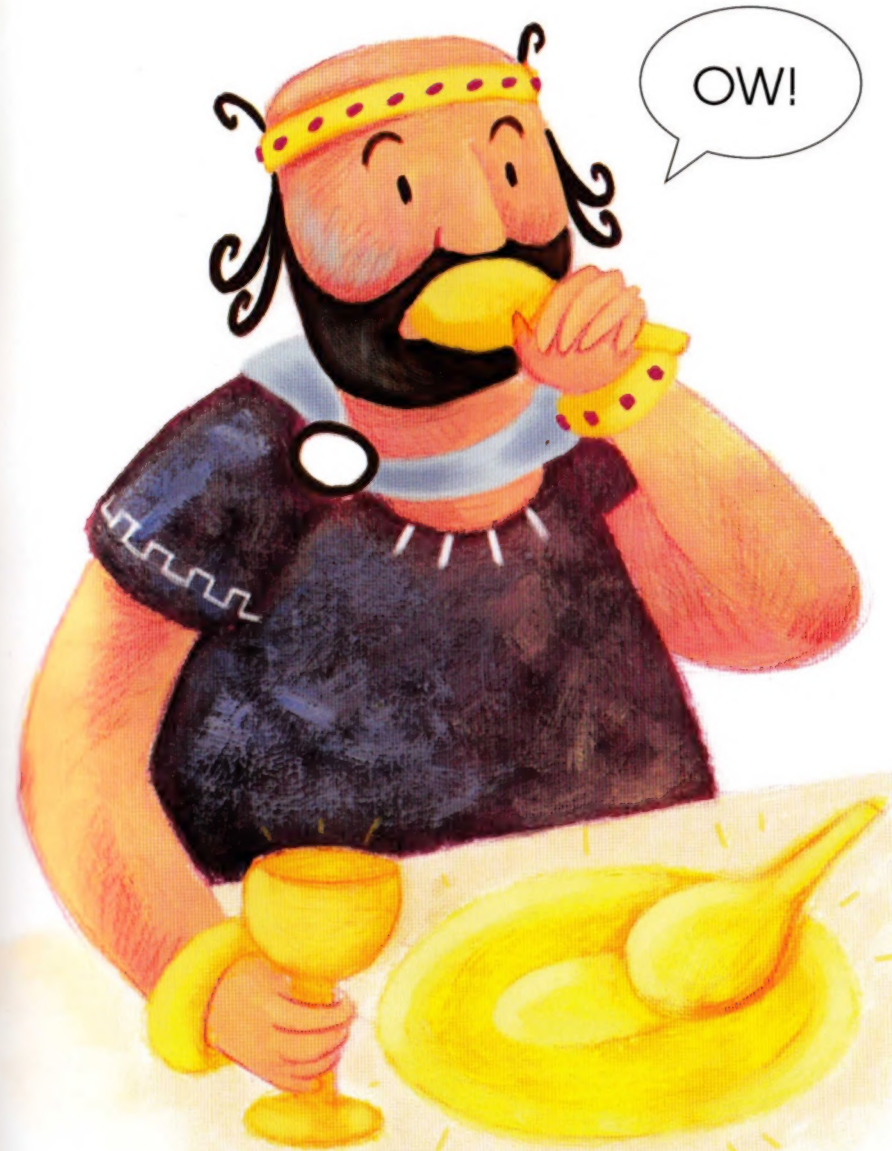
...and it turned to gold.



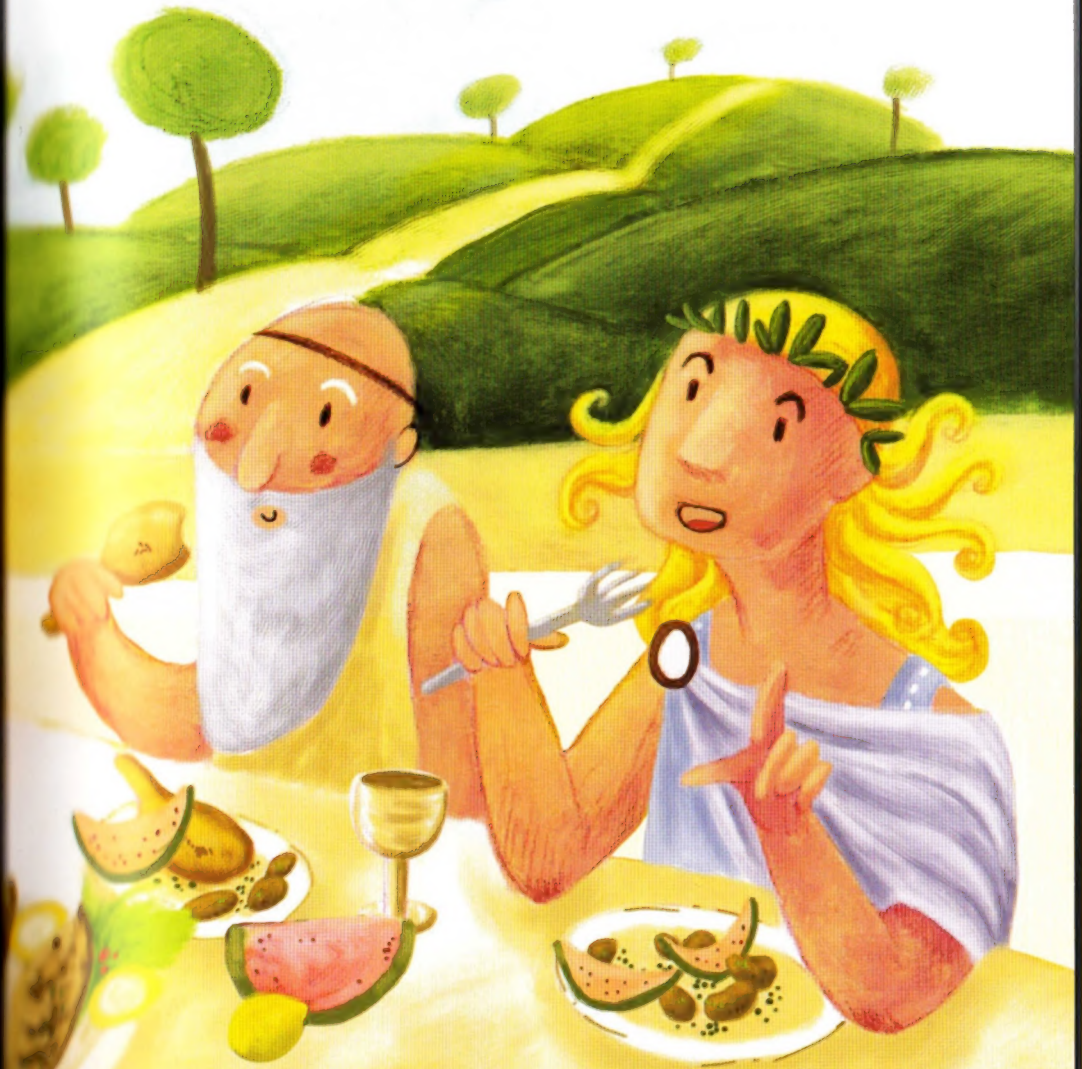
He touched his dinner...



...and that turned to gold, too.



“How can I make
it stop?” said
King Midas.



“There is a secret river in
the hills,” said the god.

“Find it and wash
yourself in it.”



Midas walked a very
long way.



At last, he found
the river.



And the water washed
away his golden touch.

PUZZLES

Puzzle 1

Can you spot the differences between these two pictures?



There are six to find.



Which order should the pictures be in?

Puzzle 2



A



B



C



D

Puzzle 3



A



B



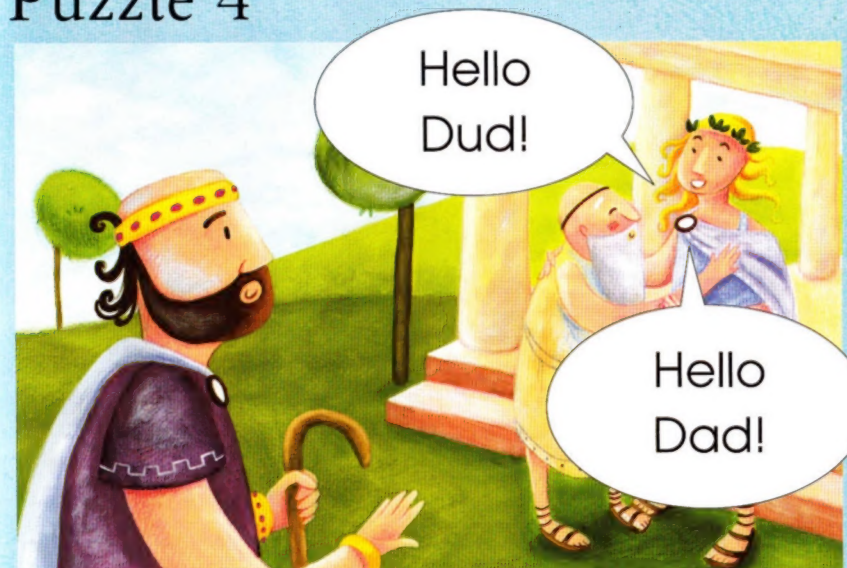
C



D

Choose the best sentence in each picture.

Puzzle 4



Puzzle 5



What happened next?

Puzzle 6



A

or

B?



Puzzle 7



A

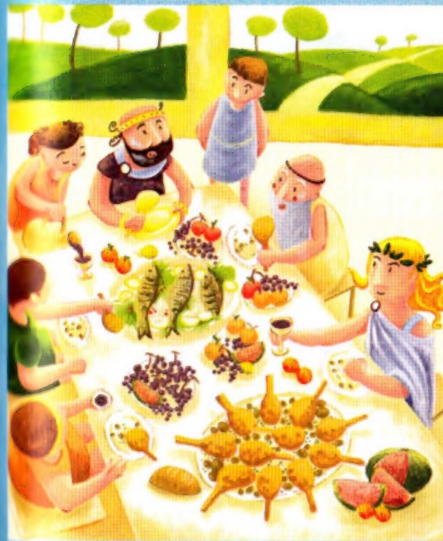
or

B?



Answers to puzzles

Puzzle 1



Puzzle 2



C



A



D



B

Puzzle 3



B



C



D



A

Puzzle 4



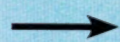
"Hello Dad!"

Puzzle 5



"It's gold!"

Puzzle 6



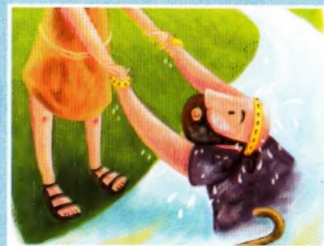
B



Puzzle 7



A



About the story

King Midas was a real king. He lived in Ancient Greece around 3,000 years ago. An old legend says he went to the river Pactolus to wash. This river is in modern day Turkey. People still say that the stones on the river bed sparkle with gold.

